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PROGRAM	CBS Evening News	STATION	WTOP TV CBS Network
DATE	October 19, 1972 7:00 PM	CITY	Washington, D.C.

CIA AGENTS "STOLE" A SPUTNIK

WALTER CRONKITE: Back in the late 1950's before this country took a clear lead in exploration of space, there was an almost hysterical reaction to the first Russian Sputnik.

Well, there's a new book by a former agent of the Central Intelligence Agency, Patrick McGarvey. And he claims that back in 1958 CIA agents actually stole a Sputnik while it was on a world tour.

McGarvey says the CIA forced him to delete the name of the country where the incident took place. But he says agents managed to steal the Sputnik display for three hours. He says they completely dismantled it, took pictures, put it back together and returned it without getting caught.